

CH-782

1904

Chicamuxen United Methodist Church

Chicamuxen, vic.

Private

The Chicamuxen United Methodist Church is significant architecturally as well as for the site's association with Civil War activities in Charles County. The church is typical of the many rural chapels erected in Charles County during the early years of the 20th century. Built in 1904 and relocated in 1933 to an adjacent lot, the church originally faced west and stood on the east side of a fork in the road leading circuitously from Budds Ferry to Stump Neck to the north and to a series of farms in Chicamuxen to the south. Its modest size, minimal architectural adornment, and single-room interior plan are characteristic of these rural "circuit" churches served by itinerant ministers. The former church was occupied as the Union Headquarters by General Joseph Hooker during the winter of 1861-62.

Inventory No. CH-782

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Chicamuxen United Methodist Church

other

2. Location

street and number	6255 Chicamuxen Road	not for publication
-------------------	----------------------	---------------------

city, town	Indian Head	20640	X	vicinity
------------	-------------	-------	---	----------

county Charles

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name	Chicamuxen United Methodist Church
------	------------------------------------

street and number 5970 Manor Lane telephone 301-743-3926

city, town	La Plata	state	MD	zip code	20646-4612
------------	----------	-------	----	----------	------------

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Charles County Courthouse tax map and parcel: 29/97

city, town	La Plata	liber	156	folio	697
------------	----------	-------	-----	-------	-----

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report
☐ Other

6. Classification

Category		Ownership		Current Function		Resource Count	
						Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public	<input type="checkbox"/>	landscape	<u>1</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	private	<input type="checkbox"/>	commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure	<input type="checkbox"/>	both	<input type="checkbox"/>	defense	<u>1</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
<input type="checkbox"/>	site			<input type="checkbox"/>	domestic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
<input type="checkbox"/>	object			<input type="checkbox"/>	education	<u>2</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
				<input type="checkbox"/>	funerary		
				<input type="checkbox"/>	government		
				<input type="checkbox"/>	health care		
				<input type="checkbox"/>	industry		
				<input type="checkbox"/>	religion		
				<input type="checkbox"/>	social		
				<input type="checkbox"/>	transportation		
				<input type="checkbox"/>	work in progress		
				<input type="checkbox"/>	unknown		
				<input type="checkbox"/>	vacant/not in use		
				<input type="checkbox"/>	other:		
						Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory <div>0</div>	

7. Description

Inventory No. CH-782

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Now facing south on Chicamuxen Road, the Chicamuxen United Methodist Church was built in 1904, next to the site of a former 19th century chapel which was used as a Union headquarters during the Civil War. The current structure is a small frame chapel typical of those found throughout Charles County. The church is comprised of a front gable structure, four bays in length, with a steeple adorning the front entrance which is centered on the south gable elevation. The roof is steeply pitched. Gothic inspired details include decorative exposed rafters and lancet windows. The structure rests on a continuous concrete foundation. Other notable features include a church cemetery to the east and a historic roadbed to the north.

The front elevation includes a steeple/belltower capped by a pyramidal roof sheathed with original pressed tin shingles. Double entrance doors in the belfry are sheltered by a steeply pitched gable-roof porch resting on square wood and concrete posts. The porch holds an arched stained glass window. Flanking either side of the porch are single stained glass lancet windows. The east and west eave elevations have four stained glass lancet windows each. The north or rear elevations include at least two modern additions. The interior was not available at the time of the survey.

To the east of the church is a cemetery containing approximately 200 markers and stones. Most date from the early to late 20th century. To the north is a well-preserved historic roadbed that formally led to Rum Point. The original c.1835 church is likely located to the immediate east of this roadbed. After MD 224 was constructed, the church which originally faced west was realigned to face south.

8. Significance

Inventory No. CH-782

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Specific dates	1904;1933	Architect/Builder	Unknown
Construction dates	1904;1933		

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

Built in 1904, the Chicamuxen United Methodist Church is significant architecturally as well as for the site's association with Civil War activities in Charles County. The church is typical of the many rural chapels erected in Charles County during the early years of the 20th century. Built in 1904 and relocated in 1933 to an adjacent lot, the church (as it appears on a 1925 USGS map) originally faced west and stood on the east side of a fork in the road leading circuitously from Budd's Ferry to Stump Neck to the north and to a series of farms in Chicamuxen to the south. The church building is typical of the many small houses of worship that dot the rural landscape of Charles County. Its modest size, minimal architectural adornment, and single-room interior plan are characteristic of these rural "circuit" churches served by itinerant ministers. The former church was occupied as the Union Headquarters by General Joseph Hooker during the winter of 1861-62.

Although the exact history of the church and its original location is not completely understood, it is believed that prior to 1904 Chicamuxen Methodist Church stood on an adjacent lot, likely parcel 145 standing to the south of the current church site adjacent to the historic road bed. In 1903 Annie Milstead deeded 85 acres known as the Peter Wheeler Farm to James Milstead. In the following year, Milstead and his wife Cora deeded 5/16 of an acre, adjacent to the current Chicamuxen Church to the Chicamuxen Methodist Church South, for the purpose of erecting a place of divine worship. In 1916, the surrounding farm was sold to the Montgomery family, who in 1962 deeded a fraction of an acre to the Church.

Methodism was spread to Southern Maryland via traveling evangelical preachers who visited private homes and staged impromptu revival meetings. While, there are few surviving records of early Methodist activities in Charles County, it is known that from approximately 1785 throughout the 19th century itinerant apostles traveled the countryside converting residents and preaching at meetings. As the number of believers grew, small groups of converts began to organize into what were called Methodist societies. Some of the earliest of these societies in Charles and St. Mary's counties were located at Bethel, Mechanicsville, New Town (near La Plata), Pisgah, Shiloh and Chicamuxen.

The origins of Chicamuxen Methodist Church derive from a private chapel known as "Halley's Meeting House," that was erected by Preacher Richard Halley on his lands near Pomonkey circa 1835. Oral history identifies this first house of worship as a small log structure located near the present Shiloh Methodist Church. However the earliest deed for a Methodist congregation in Charles County was in 1841 when Henry and Chloe Moore sold to Thomas R. Halley, Thomas Clark, James Moore, Joseph R. Hunt, Jeremiah Townsend, one acre of a part of Moore's Rest, Moore's Venture within the bounds of Chicamuxen Mission.

During the entire armed conflict that followed the secession of the southern states, Charles County was occupied by Union soldiers. In October of 1861, the Excelsior Brigade moved to a location opposite Aquia Creek. General Hooker established a camp at Chicamuxen Creek. Hooker was in command of 10,000-14,000 men. The site of the former Chicamuxen Church was the headquarters for the Chicamuxen camp and nearby there were batteries and earthworks at Budd's Ferry and Indian Head as well as

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties For

Inventory No CH-782

Name Chicamuxen United Methodist Church

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

a depot station at Rum Point.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-782

Section 8 Page 1

Chicamuxen United Methodist Church

name of property

Charles County, MD

county and state

Chain of Title:

Parcel 1(Current Church Building)

1904 James Franklin Milstead and Cora A. Milstead, wife to Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. Adjoining the lot on which Chicamuxen Methodist Church now stands...that on said premises shall be erected a suitable building...[to be used as a house of worship] 5/16 acre
15/244

Parcel 2

1962 Irene S. Montgomery and Howard Miontgomery, husband to Trustees Chicamuxen Metrhodist Church . Fraction of an acre in the front of the church. Possibly cut off as a result of road construction
. 156/697

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. CH-782

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 2.0

Acreage of historical setting 2.0

Quadrangle name Indian Head

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Chicamuxen United Methodist Church is associated with Charles County Property Tax Map 29, Parcel 97.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Cathy Hardy/ Historic Sites Surveyor

organization Charles County Planning

date 10/22/2003

street and number 200 Baltimore Street

telephone 301-396-5815

city or town La Plata

state MD zip code 20646

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032
410-514-7600

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-782

Section 9 Page 1

Chicamuxen United Methodist Church
name of property
Charles County, MD
county and state

Major Bibliographic References:

Brown, Jack D., et al. *Charles County, Maryland, A History*.
Charles County Bicentennial Committee, 1976.

Charles County Land Records, Charles County Courthouse, LaPlata, Maryland.

Hardy, Cathy Currey. "Phase III Final Report Charles County Historic Sites Survey."
Charles County Planning. July 2002.

KCI Technologies, Inc. *Draft--Historic Context For the U.S. 301 Southern Corridor
Transportation Study*. August 1996.

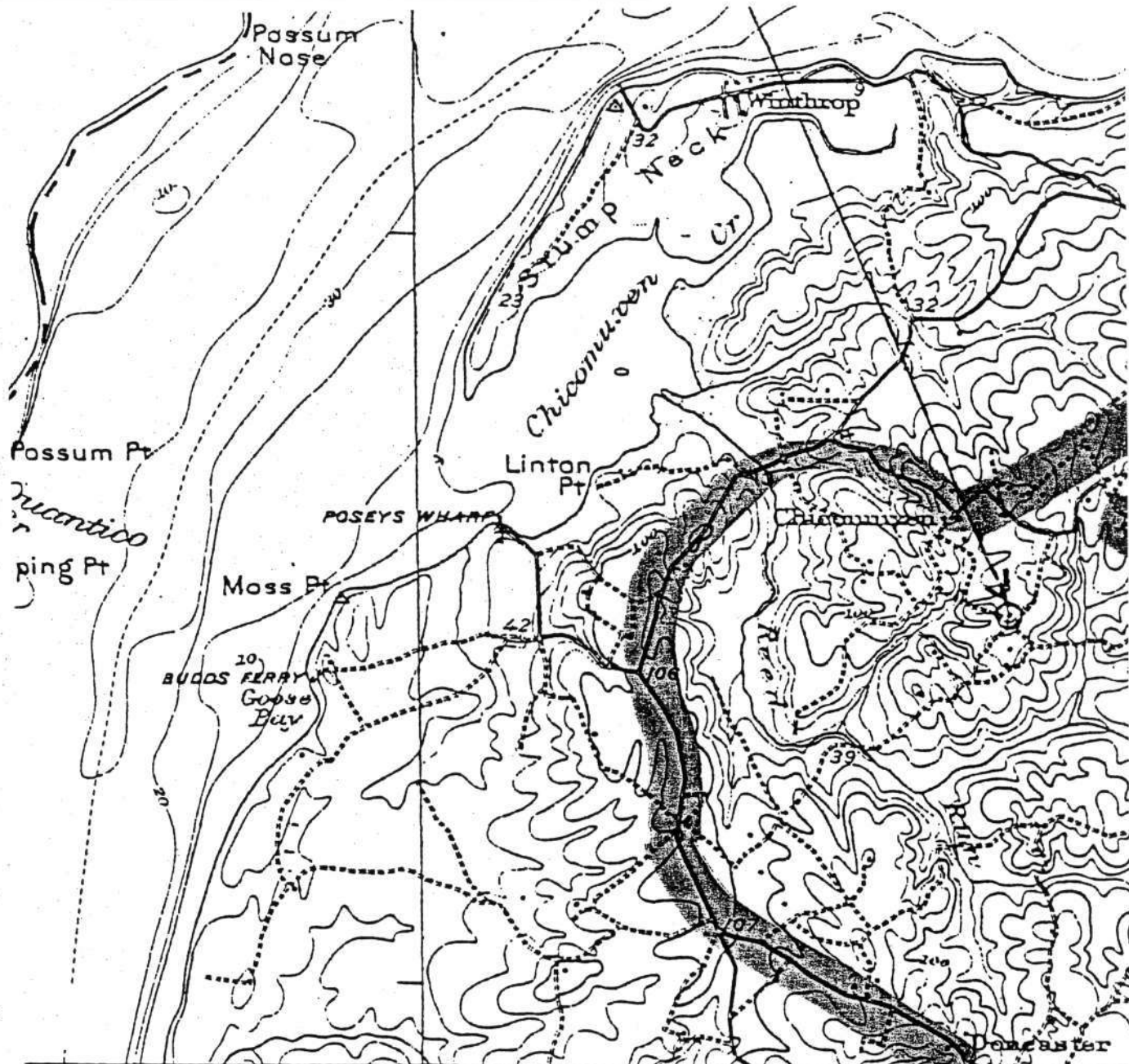
Klaphor, Margaret Brown. *The History of Charles County, Maryland*.
LaPlata, MD: Charles County Tercentenary, Inc., 1958.

Lewis, J. Frank & Company. *The Maryland Directory*. 1880. Baltimore

Maps

Griffith, Dennis. *Map of the State of Maryland Laid down from an actual Survey of all the
principal Waters, public Roads, and Divisions of the Counties therein....*Philadelphia, PA: J.
Tallance, Engraver, June 6, 1795.

Martenet, Simon J. *Martenet's Map of Maryland and the District of Columbia*. Baltimore, MD:
Simon J. Martenet, C.E., 1865; revised 1885.



Fredericksburg
 77° 15'
 125000

1360 000 YARDS RIVERSIDE
 Topography by Fred Graff, Jr., R.L. Harrison, and
 W. Carvel Hall, and from map of Fort Humphreys
 Control and shoreline in part by U.S. Coast and G
 Underwater contours based upon U.S. Coast and G
 Surveyed in 1900, 1911 and 1923.

CH-782

CH-782

P. 17

JOHN G. H
590/
85.7
P. 2

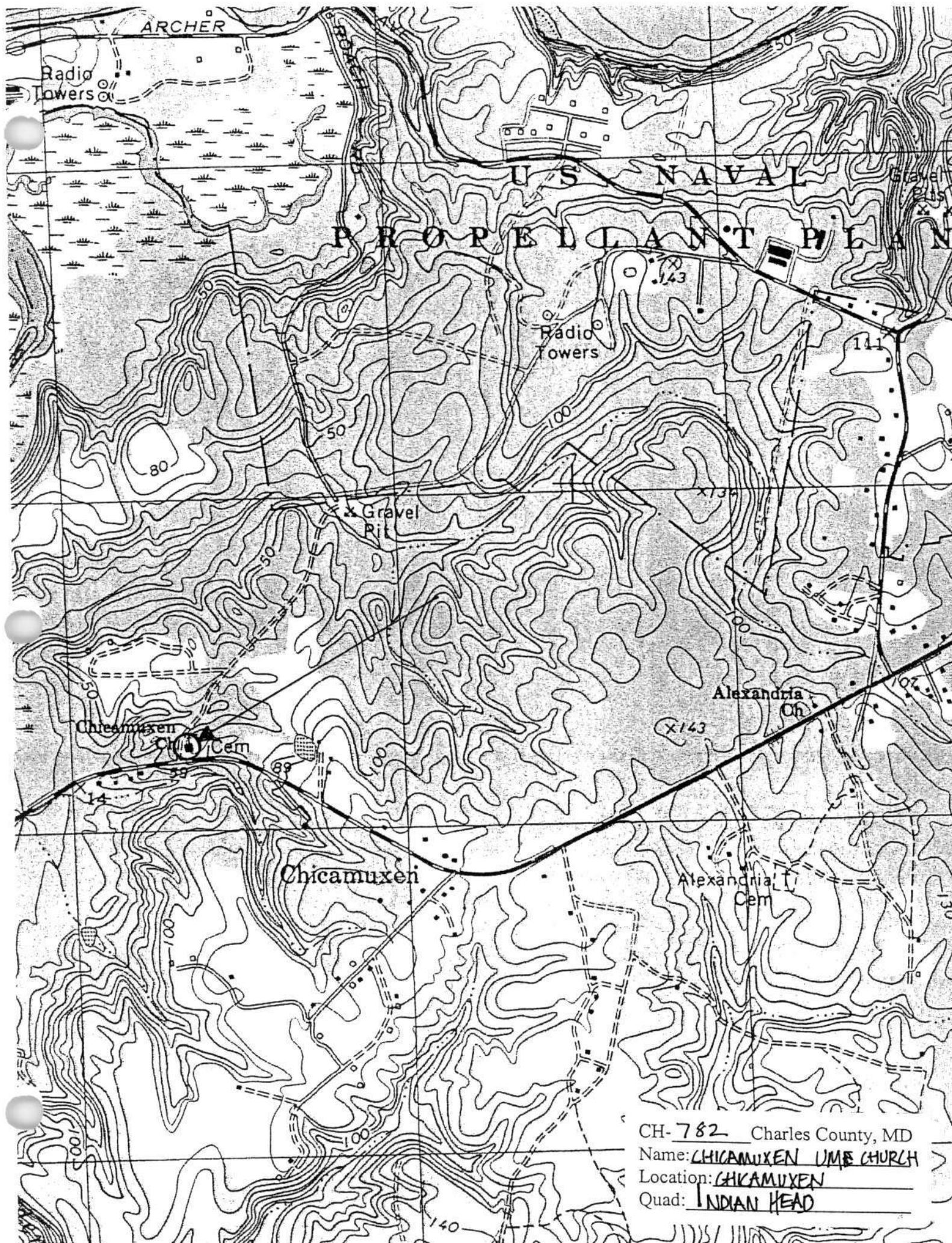
Chicamoxen

Cem

SAM HANISH
153/66
104.53 A.
P. 27

Chicam

P. 159





CH 782
CHICAMOXEN UM CHURCH
CHARLES CO, MD
C. HARDY
5/2003
MD SHPO
LOOKING N.E.
1 OF 4



CH-782

CHICAMUXEN UM CHURCH

CHARLES CO, MD

C. HARDY

5/2003

MD SHPO

LOOKING N~~W~~

2 OF 4



CH-782

CHICAMUXEN U M CHURCH

CHARLES CO, MD

E. HARRY

5/2003

MD STAP6

LOOKING W

30F4



CH 782
CHILAMUXEN VM CHURCH
CHARLES CO, MD
C. HARRY
5/2003
MD SHPO
LOOKING ~~IN~~ NE, ROADBED
4 OF 4